

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for offering purchase price protection for a product and/or service, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving, [[at]] by a first web site, information directly from a user, the information being associated with a product and/or service that was purchased by the user from a vendor second web site different from the first web site, wherein the information includes the purchase price of the product and/or service and wherein the vendor second web site offers purchase price protection for the product and/or service;

determining, by the first web site ~~at a second web site~~, a current price for the product and/or service at the second web site;

determining, by the first web site, whether the user is [[due]] entitled to a purchase price protection refund based on the current price determined at the second web site; and

the first web site sending directly to the user an indication ~~to the user~~ indicating that the user is entitled to the purchase price protection refund is due.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the first web site includes a web page having a list of text fields and identifiers for the user to enter at least one of the following information associated with a product and/or service that was purchased by the user from the vendor second web site, the user thereby providing information directly to the first web site includes at least one of:

[[the]] a name of the product and/or service;

a description of the product or service;

an identifier of the product and/or service;

[[the]] a name, address and telephone number of the vendor second web site;

[[the]] a date the product and/or service was purchased by the user;

[[the]] a price the user paid for the product and/or service; and

[[the]] a type of purchase price protection offered by the vendor second web site.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first determining step comprises the steps of:
 - visiting the second web site;
 - selecting the product and/or service on the second web site; and
 - reading from the second web site a price associated with the product and/or service.
4. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 1, wherein the second determining step comprises the steps of:

determining a time period of the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site for the product and/or service, the current time, the purchase price of the product and/or service, and the current price of the product and/or service ~~determined from~~ at the second web site; and

if the current time is within the time period of the purchase price protection and if the purchase price of the product and/or service is greater than the current price ~~determined from~~ at the second web site, then determining that the user is due a purchase price protection refund, and otherwise, determining that the user is not due a purchase price protection refund.
5. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

the first web site providing directly to the user with information necessary for redeeming the refund that is due from the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site, such that the user may redeem the refund directly from the ~~vendor~~ second web site.
6. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

the first web site sending directly to the user a refund corresponding to the refund due from the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site; and

the first web site redeeming from the ~~vendor~~ second web site, on behalf of the user, the refund the user is due from the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site.
7. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~each of~~ the first web site and the second web site ~~comprises an~~ are separate e-commerce web site sites.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A computer program product comprising computer instructions for operating on at least one web site for offering purchase price protection for a product and/or service, the computer instructions including instructions for:

receiving, [[at]] by a first web site, information directly from a user, the information being associated with a product and/or service that was purchased by the user from a ~~vendor~~ second web site different from the first web site, wherein the information includes the purchase price of the product and/or service and wherein the ~~vendor~~ second web site offers purchase price protection for the product and/or service;

determining, by the first web site ~~at a second web site~~, a current price for the product and/or service at the second web site;

determining, by the first web site, whether the user is [[due]] entitled to a purchase price protection refund based on the current price determined at the second web site; and

the first web site sending directly to the user an indication ~~to the user~~ indicating that the user is entitled to the purchase price protection refund is due.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the information associated with a product and/or service that was purchased by the user from the ~~vendor~~ second web site includes at least one of:

[[the]] a name of the product and/or service;

a description of the product or service;

[[the]] an identifier of the product and/or service;

[[the]] a name, address and telephone number of the ~~vendor~~ second web site;

[[the]] a date the product and/or service was purchased by the user;

[[the]] a price the user paid for the product and/or service; and

[[the]] a type of purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site.

10. (Original) The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the instructions for the first determining step comprise instructions for:

visiting the second web site;

selecting the product and/or service on the second web site; and

reading from the second web site a price associated with the product and/or service.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the instructions for the second determining step comprise instructions for:

determining a time period of the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site for the product and/or service, the current time, the purchase price of the product and/or service, and the price of the product and/or service ~~determined from~~ at the second web site; and

if the current time is within the time period of the purchase price protection and if the purchase price of the product and/or service is greater than the price determined from the second web site, then determining that the user is due a purchase price protection refund, and otherwise, determining that the user is not due a purchase price protection refund.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The computer program product of claim 8, further comprising instructions for:

the first web site providing directly to the user with information necessary for redeeming the refund that is due from the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site, such that the user may redeem the refund directly from the ~~vendor~~ second web site.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The computer program product of claim 8, further comprising instructions for:

the first web site sending directly to the user a refund corresponding to the refund due from the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site; and

the first web site redeeming from the ~~vendor~~ second web site, on behalf of the user, the refund the user is due ~~from~~ as a result of the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The computer program product of claim 8, wherein ~~each~~ of the first web site and the second web site ~~comprises~~ an are separate e-commerce web site sites.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for offering purchase price protection for a product and/or service, comprising:

a first web site for receiving information directly from a user, the information being associated with a product and/or service that was purchased by the user from a ~~vendor~~ second web site different from the first web site, wherein the information includes the purchase price of the product and/or service and wherein the ~~vendor~~ second web site offers purchase price protection for the product and/or service;

a spider for determining a current price on [[a]] the second web site ~~a price~~ for the product and/or service;

a processor for determining whether the user is due a purchase price protection refund based on the current price ~~determined from~~ on the second web site; and

a transmitter for sending ~~an indication~~ directly to the user an indication indicating that the purchase price protection refund is due.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the information associated with a product and/or service that was purchased by the user from the ~~vendor~~ second web site includes at least one of:

[[the]] a name of the product and/or service;

a description of the product or service;

an identifier of the product and/or service;

[[the]] a name, address and telephone number of the ~~vendor~~ second web site;

[[the]] a date the product and/or service was purchased by the user;

[[the]] a price the user paid for the product and/or service; and

[[the]] a type of purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the spider ~~for visiting~~ visits the second web site, ~~selecting~~ selects the product and/or service on the second web site, and ~~reading~~ reads from the second web site a price associated with the product and/or service.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 15, wherein the processor further comprises:
means for determining a time period of the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site for the product and/or service, the current time, the purchase price of the product and/or service, and the price of the product and/or service determined from the second web site; and
if the current time is within the time period of the purchase price protection and if the purchase price of the product and/or service is greater than the price determined from the second web site, then determining that the user is due a purchase price protection refund, and otherwise, determining that the user is not due a purchase price protection refund.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 15, wherein the transmitter further ~~for~~ providing provides directly to the user ~~with~~ information necessary for redeeming the refund due from the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site, such that the user may redeem the refund from the ~~vendor~~ second web site.

20. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 15, wherein the transmitter further ~~for sending~~ sends directly to the user a refund corresponding to the refund due from the purchase price protection offered by the ~~vendor~~ second web site.